

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 are presented for consideration, with Claim 1 being independent.

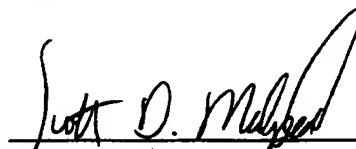
As will be appreciated, Claims 1-3 have been previously allowed. Claim 1 has been amended to even more clearly set forth the claimed invention. Support for the amendments to Claim 1 can be found, for example, on page 19, line 11 through page 20, line 17 of the specification. Editorial changes have been made to Claims 2 and 3.

The specification and abstract have been reviewed and amended to correct minor informalities and improve their idiomatic English form.

Due consideration and prompt passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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